



To: Chief Executive of each Local Authority,  
Directors of each Regional Assembly,  
An Bord Pleanála

CC: Directors of Planning Services, City and County Councils,  
Senior Planners, City and County Councils and Regional Assemblies

**Circular FPS04/2018**

**3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018**

**Re: Implementation Roadmap for the National Planning Framework**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am directed by Eoghan Murphy TD, Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, to update planning authorities on a number of matters relating to the implementation of the National Planning Framework as a follow-on from Circular Letter FPS 02/2018 which issued on 23 February, and further to briefing sessions that were held with Local Authority planning teams during March. Taking account of the above, an *Implementation Roadmap for the NPF* is attached to this Circular.

The roadmap document addresses a number of important issues that have emerged subsequent to the publication of the NPF, that arise as part of its implementation through the forthcoming Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) process and the operation of our planning process more generally.

Through publication of the NPF and the forthcoming RSESs, Government wishes to see much closer alignment between national, regional and local planning. Ensuring that alignment will be an important function in the role of the proposed Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR).



Matters addressed in the Implementation Roadmap therefore include:

- 1) Legal Status and Project Governance.
- 2) Enactment of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill 2016 and alignment of County Development Plans.
- 3) Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSESs), including:
  - a) Transitional Population Projections;
  - b) Metropolitan Areas;
  - c) Regional Centres – Plan Preparation.
- 4) Urban and Rural Regeneration and Development Funds.
- 5) The National Regeneration and Development Agency

While the Roadmap sets out the way forward, it is intended that it will be periodically updated and matters arising will be addressed through an ongoing process of interaction and refinement that feeds back iteratively into the implementation process for the National Planning Framework.

As the Roadmap outlines, a range of innovative funding and implementation measures are about to be put in place that the Department considers will considerably strengthen the effectiveness of our planning process and the translation of policies into better outcomes for our citizens.

Any queries on this circular and the Roadmap may be directed to Maude Ni Bhrolcháin at [npf@housing.gov.ie](mailto:npf@housing.gov.ie) or (01) 888 2000. Periodic updates will be posted on [www.npf.ie](http://www.npf.ie) and [www.gov.ie/2040](http://www.gov.ie/2040).



Yours sincerely,

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